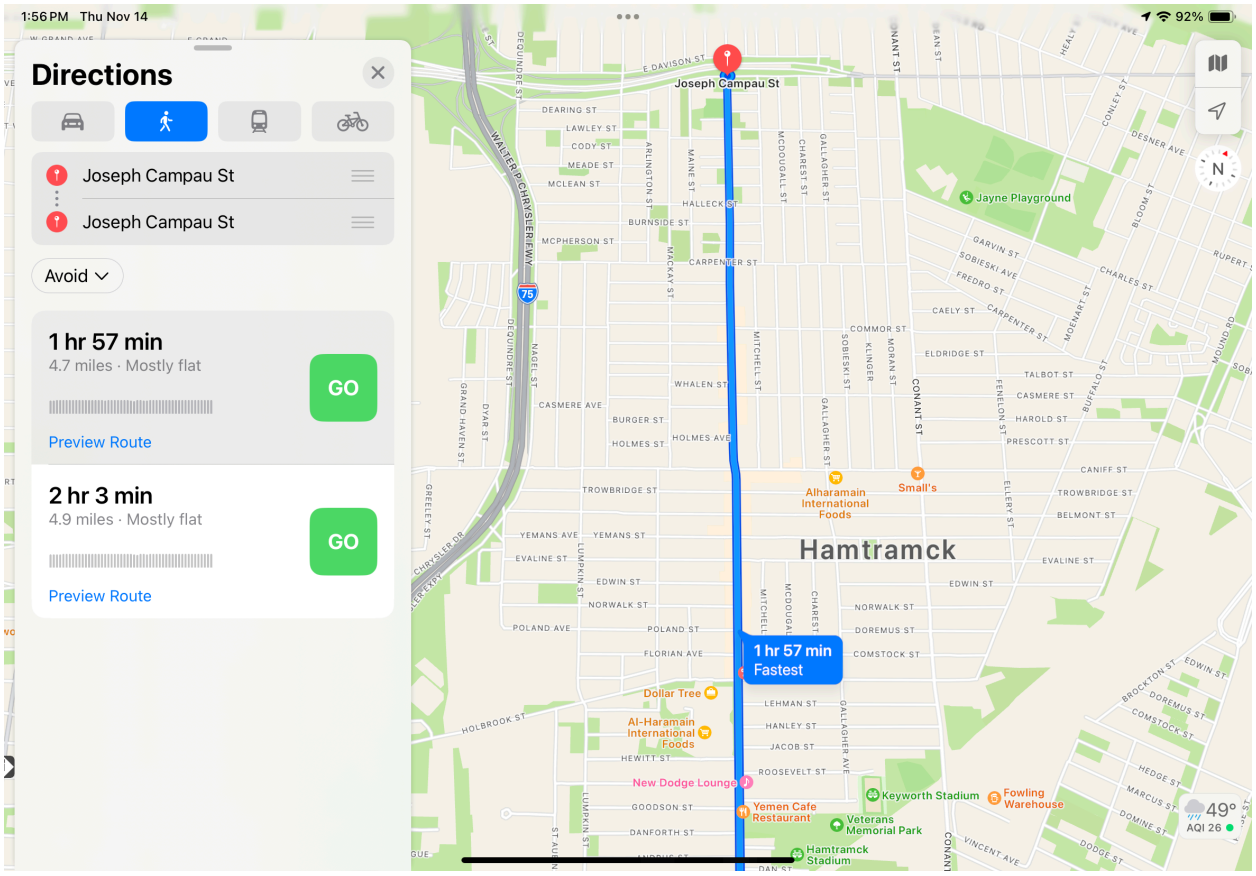
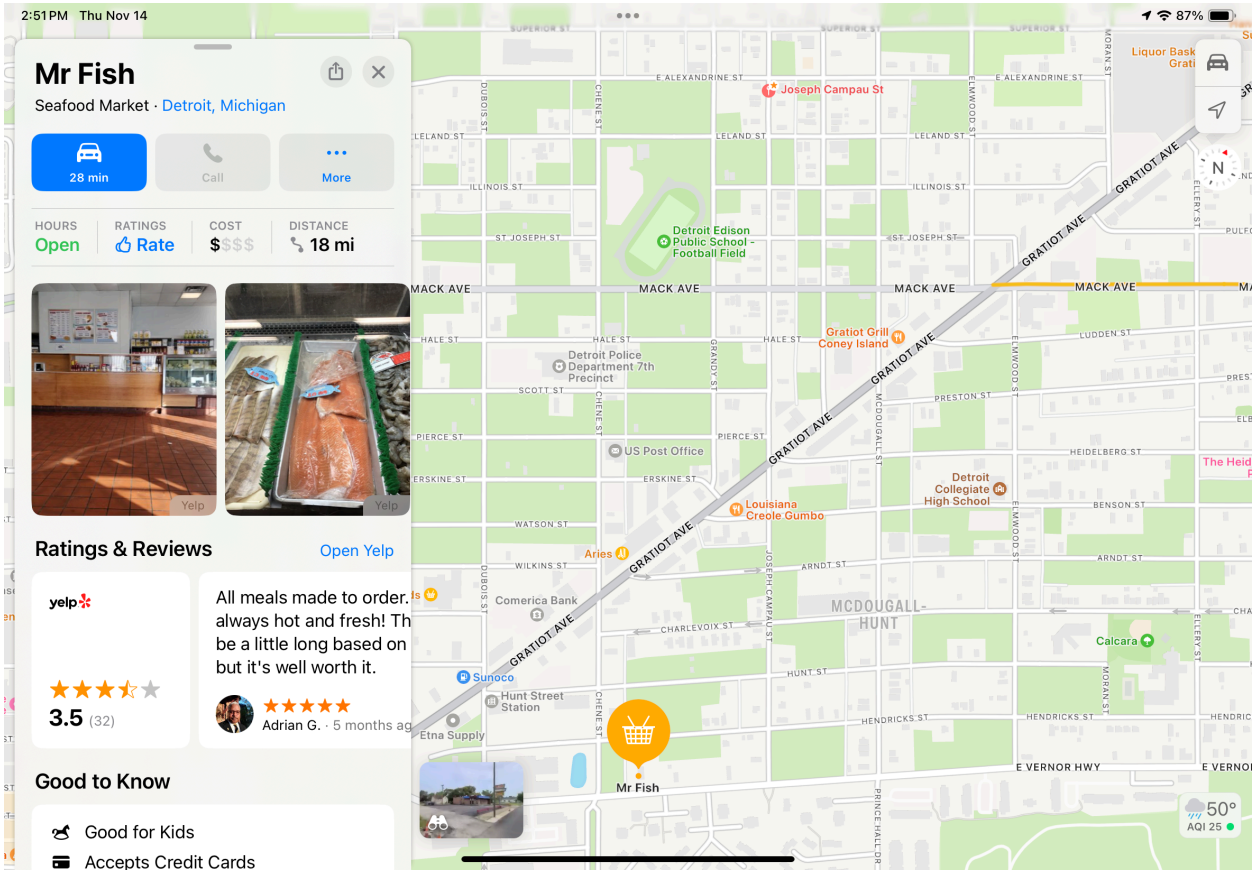
Hamtramck

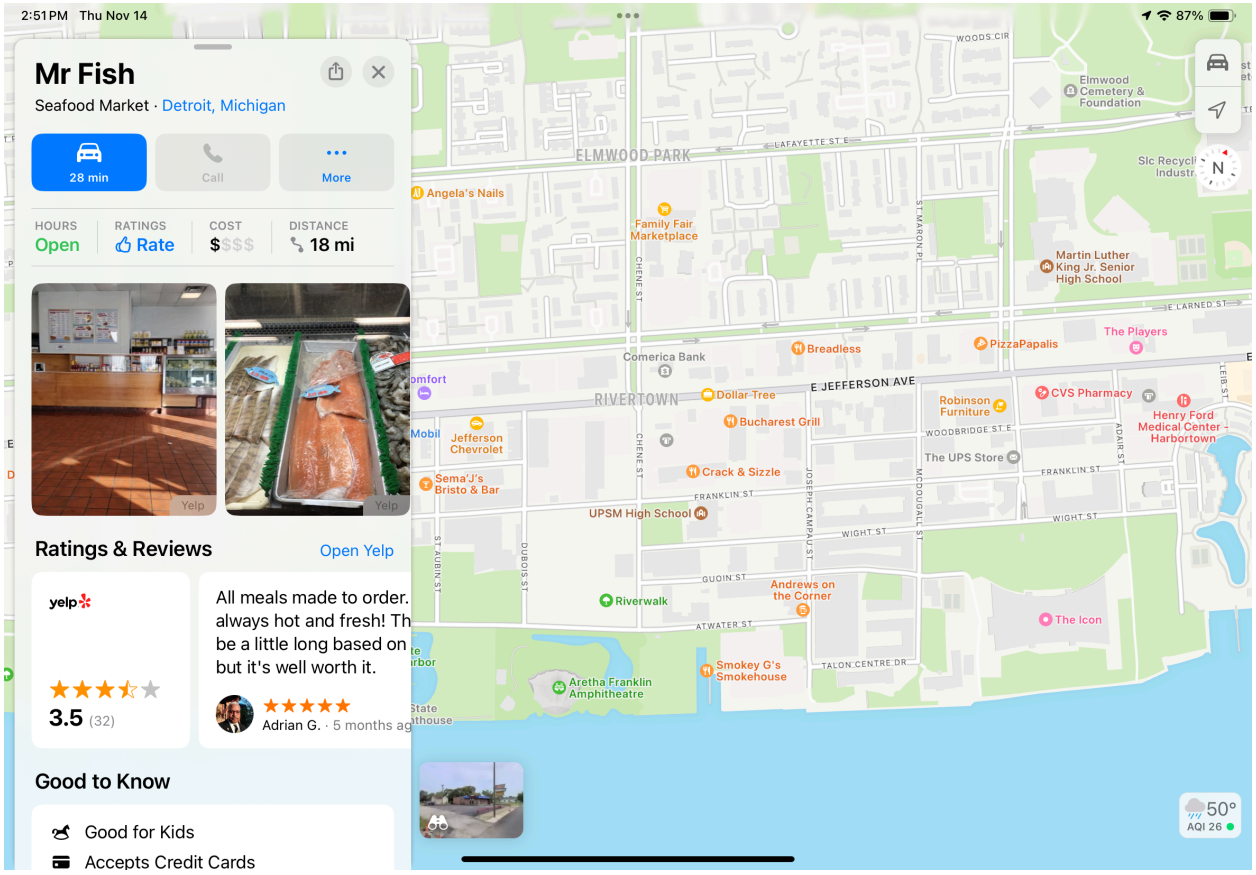
What makes a street, an avenue, good for the people around the street? What is the purpose of a street? Here in Detroit many of the roads and streets used to be rivers and trailers used by the native Americans. We may have added earth to our streets but in Detroit our roads still act as rivers carrying goods, people, resources and ideas in a manner that demonstrates their originals flow. Joseph Campau avenue presents a beautiful thought experiment as to what we want from our streets. Joseph campua avenue extends from hammtrack to the river and it is divided into 3 separate areas. It runs 5.3 miles north southish through two cities. I will argue that by looking at the hpdevelopment around Joseph Campau, conclusions about generative opportunities can be made. Joseph Campau avenue in hamtrack has the most generative opportunities due to the density of the housing stock and streets that create a natural trap for humans to traverse by foot, instead of car.



The second part of Joseph Campau, interrupted by highways, a cemetery and municipal districting starts back up at E Forest street in Detroit.



The third part of Joseph Campau runs a short jog to the river. By comparing and contrasting the development around Joseph Campua and embedding the history of the people and the society we can make ascertains and provide illumination for pathways to future prosperity.



Joseph Campau Avenue is named for the man himself, born in 1769 in Detroit, though educated in the French Canadian way in Montreal away from the influence of the British officiers infiltrating Detroit French society after the French and Indian War. Joseph Campau was Detroit bourgeoises, generating wealth from his familial connections to open a general store on Atwater on the Westside. He was a merchant with strong ties to the Native American traders who lived in Detroit and around Detroit. His house was on Griswold and Shelby Street downtown. During that time, Joseph Campau took a boat to get to his shop since those roads were rivers then. He was called Big Shot by those Native Americans, so much description with so few words. He was tall and a freemason having a rift with the Catholic Church that lasts to this day his having been buried away from his wife and in a different cemetery. He spoke many languages but French was his written language of choice, even those writing him used French when writing his address on envelope. He enslaved humans and started the Democratic Free Press with his nephew in owning humans John R. Williams. He was the largest landowner during a time when landowning came down to whose had the resources to create, protect and

profit off of land. He was a Big Shot and the division of his street was due to contemporary conflicts that hurt us in ways today.

At the height of Joseph Campaus' noteriary as a store owner frequently getting in trouble with the new American or British overlord for continuing the practice of trading alcohol with native Americans, Detroit burned to the ground. Like many Detroiters before and after, Joseph saw opportunity in Detroit's destruction. Detroit's rebuilding came just at the time that the Americans were defining for their newly acquired territories' conceptions of value. These American surveyors sought to solidify land rights and property rights through "legal" ownership which at this time meant all these pieces of paper used to signify ideas much greater and more debated than all the little letters suggest. Detroit had an different relationship to land and land ownership owning to its development as a trading center and many of the land "deals" passed with handshakes and demonstrable value derived from the land gave one ownership. These upstart Americans decided that a land full of small scale farmer, connected to the lifeblood of resources from small time bankers, protected by interstate transit, would be the future vision of America. At least this was Thomas Jefferson's plan when he sent August's Woodrow to Detroit. Thanks right Woodward and Joseph Campau were contemporaries. Joseph Campau, for all his moral failures, represented a version of French and Indigeniois Detroit preserved and lifted from the successful Americanization that occurred during the Detroit's second Century. Joseph found common unity with transparent paths ways to success and used his considerable wealth, amassed through his connections, to purchase some of the 2 million acre parcels of land surveyed by the Americans, for 1.25$ per 80 acres. 1820 is when Detroit experienced its second exponential population growth, the first being its original settlement when Cadillac and Joseph Campau's grandfather settled with Native American tribes and then when the Erie Canal made settlement to Michigan possible for cheaper. Detroit counted 5000 inhabitants in 1810 increasing to 200,000 in 1840. Joseph was 71 at this time and his status as Big Shot in the community was both idealized and reviled. He took the role of American seriously- joining the Free Masons expanding his network, owning enslaved Africans, enlisting in the War of 1812, and leading many roles in the government of Michigan.

The street was name after Joseph Campau in 1868, Hammtrack a village in 1901, Dodge Plant opened in 1910, and the stores opened for business on the street in 1920.

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